Borhajo, Louis

Drawer 19a

ARTISTS - B

71.2009.025.0254

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Louis Bonhajo

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71. 2009. 035. 02254

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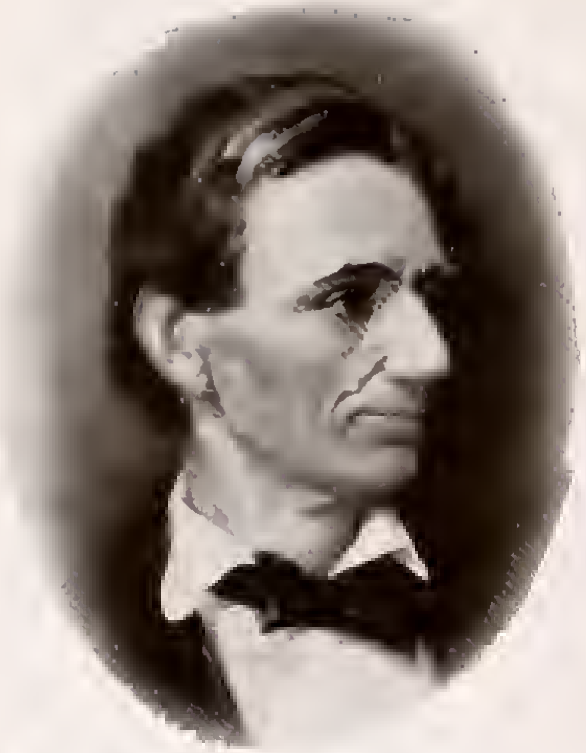
State of Indiana through the Indiana State Library

http://archive.org/details/artisxxblinc

THE LIFE OF LINCOLN

in Pictures

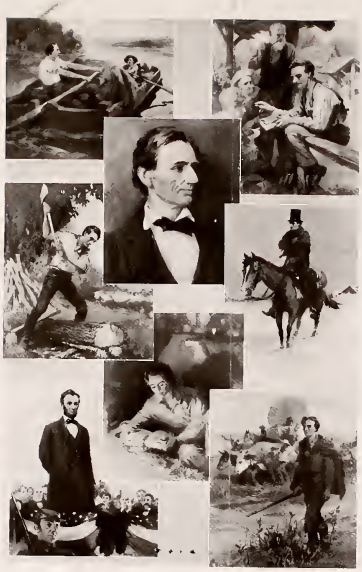


LINCOLN
The Inspiration

FROM the beginning of history, down thru the ages, and into a world embittered with hate and war, the annals of mankind point to no man more worthy to stand on the pinnacle of Immortality than our own Abraham Lincoln.

No name is more closely identified with the fundamental God-given rights of Man than that of Lincoln. It shall forever possess the magic power to awaken and re-awaken in the hearts of all men those priceless humanitarian aims and ideals. With ever-increasing power, the true spirit of Americanism is finding expression in terms of what Lincoln lived and died for: courage in the face of adversity; loyalty to our Constitution; devotion to the highest moral ideals; unwavering faith in the principles of democracy — those inalienable rights of man — life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness!

From humhle hirth in a lonely one room log cabin, whose only floor was that of the hard-trodden earth, to the Presidency of these United States! What a magnificent achievement and inspiration of true American Democracy to keep constantly before our boys and girls!



UPPER LEFT
Flatboat to New Orleans, 1828

UPPER RIGHT
Lincoln, the Story Teller

UPPER CENTER
Lincoln's First Nomination

LEFT CENTER
Lincoln, the Rail Splitter

RIGHT CENTER
Lincoln, the Country Lawyer

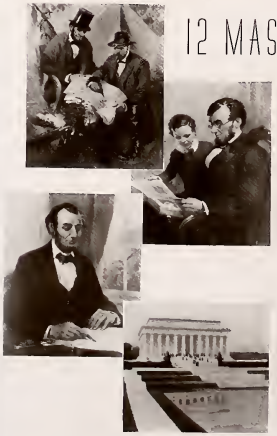
LOWER CENTER
The Boy Lincoln

LOWER LEFT
Lincoln at Gettysburg November 19, 1863

LOWER RIGHT
Lincoln Moves to Illinois, 1830

12 MASTERLY PAINTINGS

BY LOUIS BONHAJO



UPPER LEFT
Lincoln Visits Grant, 1863

UPPER RIGHT
Lincoln with His Son, Tad

LOWER LEFT
Lincoln Signs the Emancipation Proclamation

LOWER RIGHT
Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.

EVER a student of Lincoln lore, even during his early youth, Louis Bonhajo, born and reared in Cincinnati, Ohio, heard from the lips of his elders, tales of our Civil War, and the great champion of the Union cause; of Lincoln's visit to Cincinnati; his speech from the balcony of the Spencer House; of the distant rumble of cannon; and of battles in which his grandfather and uncles had fought.

Under the tutelage of his well-known artist father, young Bonhajo began his well-chosen career, learning the rudiments and technique of the pencil, charcoal and the brush. From then on, one by one, he mastered technique, life in charcoal, figure work, historical composition and animal painting — spending years at home and abroad under contemporary masters, perfecting that precise and colorful style so admirably portrayed in his works on Lincoln.

The series of twelve original paintings by Louis Bonhajo is one of the finest imaginative works on Lincoln ever undertaken, each depicting an important episode closely identified with the life of this great man. The many authorities and students of Lincoln who have seen them have been deeply impressed by the artistry, accuracy and historical significance of Mr. Bonhajo's work.

Complete List of the Celebrated Louis Bonhajo Pictures on the Life of Lincoln

Size 18½x21½ Inches.

CATALOG NUMBER	
PH1	The Boy Lincoln
PH2	Flat Boat to New Orleans, 1828
PH3	Lincoln Moves to Illinois, 1830
PH4	Lincoln, the Rail Splitter
PH5	Lincoln, the Story Teller
PH6	Lincoln, the Country Lawyer
PH7	Lincoln's First Nomination, May, 1860
PH8	Lincoln Signs the Emancipation Proclamation
PH9	Lincoln with His Son, Tad
PH10	Lincoln at Gettysburg, November 19, 1863
PH11	Lincoln Visits Grant, 1865
PH12	Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D. C.

MTG. NO.		AT CHICAGO
-1P	Set of 12 prints for framing....	$27.50
-1P	Separate prints, each.....	3.00
-CBF	On panel with 1½" frame.....	6.00
-CBFa	On Panel with 3" frame.....	7.75
-GF	Under glass with 1½" frame...	7.00
-GFa	Under glass with 3" frame.....	8.75

When a full set of framed pictures is ordered there is a discount of $10.00 on the set.

LINCOLN VISITS GRANT IN "THE WILDERNESS"
LINCOLN Immortal American
LINCOLN WITH HIS SON TAD
LINCOLN Immortal American
LINCOLN AND ANN RUTLEDGE
LINCOLN Immortal American
LINCOLN COMES TO ILLINOIS 1831
LINCOLN Immortal American
STATUE OF LIBERTY NEW YORK
LINCOLN Immortal American
SIGNING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION
LINCOLN THE RAIL SPLITTER
LINCOLN SPIRIT OF AMERICANISM

LINCOLN
THE COUNTRY LAWYER
LINCOLN
Immortal American
LINCOLN
AT GETTYSBURG
NOV. 19 1863
LINCOLN
Immortal American
LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE
HODGENVILLE, KY
LINCOLN
Immortal American
LINCOLN
MEMORIAL
WASHINGTON D.C.
LINCOLN
Immortal American
THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
LINCOLN
Immortal American
STATUE OF LINCOLN
WASHINGTON, D.C.
LINCOLN
Immortal American
THE
ST. GAUDENS
LINCOLN
LINCOLN
Immortal American
THE BOY
LINCOLN
LINCOLN
Immortal American
RIVER BOAT TO NEW ORLEANS
1828
LINCOLN
Immortal American
ETERNAL LIGHT PEACE MEMORIAL
GETTYSBURG, PA

March 4, 1941

Mr. Louis Bonhajo
360 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Bonhajo:

I have before me your letter of February 27 to Mr. Fred Fisher together with the reproduction of your painting entitled "Lincoln at Gettysburg."

We are very happy to know of the series of twelve such paintings and would like to know if it were possible for us to acquire a complete set of these reproductions similar to the one which you sent Mr. Fisher. If so, would you kindly let us know the cost of securing such reproductions.

This series of twelve pictures would be added to our already more than three thousand which we have in our possession.

With regard to the Lincoln head of which you inquire I am taking the privilege of enclosing a sheet entitled "Lincoln Art Objects" on which we show both the Lincoln head No. 4 and the bust No. 2. These items are available at actual cost to us for $3.25 for No. 4, and $10.00 for No. 2.

We own the original cast from which we had these made by Mazzolini Art Craft Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

Yours very truly,

Librarian

MAC:EB
M.A.Cook
Enc.

March 4, 1941

Mr. Louis Bouchelle
320 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Bouchelle:

I have before me your letter of February 27 to Mr. Frankfurter together with the reproductions of your painting entitled "Lincoln at Gettysburg."

We are very happy to know of the series of twelve such paintings and would like to know if it were possible for us to acquire a complete set of these reproductions relative to the new White House. If so, would you kindly let us know the cost of securing such reproductions.

This series of twelve pictures would be added to our already rare Lincoln Collection which we have in our possession.

With regard to the Lincoln-Douglas of which you inquire I am making the reservation of purchasing a minor copy of "Lincoln Art Gallery" on which we have both the Lincoln Bust No. 1 and the Bust No. 2. These items are available at actual cost to us for $3.00 for No. 1, and $10.00 for No. 2.

We are the regular agent from which we get these items by Universal Art Gallery Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

Yours very truly,

Librarian

RC:MS
R.A. Cook
Sec.

RANDOLPH 0631

LOUIS BONHAJO ILLUSTRATION & DESIGN
360 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

LINCOLN NATIONAL
Referred to
REC'D FEB 28 1941
Answered
LIFE INSUR

Feb.27,
1941

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
Ft.Wayne,Indiana
Attention of Mr.Fred Fischer

Gentlemen:

Under separate cover I am sending you a color reproduction of my painting,"Lincoln at Gettysburg".This is one of a series of twelve Lincoln subjects that were made for use in our schools.

A by-product of this work has been the acquisition of a few interesting photographs-thus the birth of another collection of Lincoln-iana.

I have seen a life-sized sculptured head of Lincoln by L.W.Volk and understand that it was obtained from your company.If you have one of these heads that you can sell me,I shall be happy to remit the cost of the same in advance.

My reason for addressing you upon this subject is that the manufacturer's tag at the bottom of the cast I saw,was so worn the the name was not readable.If you can give me the manufacturer's name in lieu of supplying a copy of the head yourself,I shall be very grateful to you.

Yours truly,

Louis Bonhajo

RANDOLPH 0631

LOUIS BONHAJO ILLUSTRATION & DESIGN

360 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

CHICAGO

Mar.6,
1941

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION
Ft.Wayne,Indiana
Attention of Mr.M.A.Cook

Gentlemen:

I conveyed your inquiry of March 4,relative to the cost of a full set of twelve color reproductions of my Lincoln paintings to the publisher, Mr.R.L.Parkinson,211 West Wacker Drive,Chicago.

The cost of these pictures,which come protected by a very substantial portfolio,is twenty two dollars and fifty cents the set.Mr.Parkinson has offered to give me a set of these pictures and suggests that I offer them to you in even exchange for the Lincoln heads Nos.2 and 4.

Please note the twenty poster stamps enclosed. You will find that eleven of these are marked with an "X".These eleven,with a twelfth subject "Lincoln the Story Teller"which does not appear in this series of stamps,are the subject matter of the large paintings.You will recognize the "Lincoln at Gettysburg"among the stamps and will,no doubt,notice that it differs somewhat in composition from the large print sent to Mr.Fisher.The large prints were reproduced from a different and more carefully finished set of originals than these stamps.

The foregoing will,I trust,give you a fair idea of what the set of large PRINTS is like.By the way, the legends under the illustrations (see Mr.Fisher's copy) were written by Paul Angle,historian and librarian of the Illinois Historical Society at Springfield,Ill.I shall,if you wish it,be happy to send you a set for your examination.And I shall,of course, feel greatly honored to have them included in your library.

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION No.2

To date,about one hundred and fifty framed sets of the large prints have been installed in schools. Most of these are in the Chicago territory.There are,to my knowledge,three sets in your state;one in the offices of the Indiana Power & Light Co.at Indianapolis and one set each in the high schools at Marion and Gas City.The latter two sets were gifts to the schools by Mr.W.S.Stephenson,president of the Delta Electric Mfg.Co.It is usual,when the pictures are placed in a school,to accompany them by a bronze plaque,bearing the donor's name.

I hope my suggested exchange of the pictures for the two casts will interest you.If it does not,I shall still wish to own the casts (Nos 2 and 4).If you wish,I shall remit for them in advance or,if you care to ship and invoice them,I can give you the National Boulevard Bank,Chicago,as my reference.

Cordially yours,

Louis V. Bulkley

March 11, 1941

Mr. Louis Bonhajo
360 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Bonhajo:

I am pleased to have your letter of March 6 and look forward to receiving from you the collection of twelve colored reproductions from your Lincoln paintings that were published by R. L. Parkinson, Chicago.

Our supply of the Lincoln head and Lincoln busts is somewhat limited at the present time and I will have to wait for approximately two weeks before I can forward to you the two items in exchange for the set of twelve pictures.

I do hope that the suggestion of yours for the exchange is fully in accord with your desire and we do accept your offer and look forward to receiving the prints from you.

Yours very truly,

MAC:KS
M.A.Cook

Librarian

THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

HOME OFFICE
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

TO Mr. Graham Hopkins
Dayton Office

DATE March 8, 1956

SUBJECT Reproductions of Oil Paintings by Louis Bonhajo

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

We have just gone over some of our pictures here at the Museum and find that four full-color reproductions of original oil paintings, 18½" x 21½" by Louis Bonhajo are charged out to you on loan:

The Boy Lincoln
Lincoln Moves to Illinois, 1830
Lincoln, the Rail Splitter
Lincoln Signs the Emancipation Proclamation

Would you kindly check for us and advise at your earliest convenience whether or not you still have these pictures? They are from a set of twelve pictures and we are anxious, of course, to keep the set intact.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Moellering

(Miss) Margaret Moellering

m/m

Dear Miss Moellering 3/8/56

Yes I have them on permanent display in our ground floor Agency Office Display Window

Graham Hopkins

March 21, 1941

Mr. Louis Bonhajo
360 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Bonhajo:

Under separate cover on Thursday, March 20, I forwarded to you a copy of the Lincoln head together with the Lincoln bust as shown on pictures 2 and 4 of the illustrated sheets forwarded to you some weeks ago.

We do hope that these pieces arrive in Chicago in your studio in fine condition and that you are as well pleased with them as we are with the series of pictures which you so kindly sent to us in exchange for the two items mentioned above.

Yours very truly,

MAC:KS
M.A.Cook

Librarian

10

March 18, 1941

Mr. Louis Bonhajo
360 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Bonhajo:

I am very happy to have your letter of March 13 and I wish to inform you that we do have in our possession at the present time a complete set of color reproductions of your Lincoln.

It appears to be a very fine set and one which should cause a great deal of comment.

Just as soon as our additional supply of the heads and busts of Abraham Lincoln arrive, I shall be very happy to forward to you the two items in exchange for the picture which you so kindly forwarded to us.

Yours very truly,

MAC:EB
M.A.Cook

Librarian

Sent 3/20/41

March 12, 1941

Mr. Lewis Brown,
720 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am very happy to have your letter of March 12 and I wish to thank you for the kind words in our publication at the present time a complete set of color reproductions of your illustrations.

It appears to be a very fine and are quite proud of a great deal of labor.

Just as soon as the additional supply of the books are ready of Brother Blondin arrives, I shall be very happy to forward to you the two items in exchange for the volume you so kindly forwarded to us.

Yours very truly,

MOB:ED
E.A.Poor

Librarian

19.

RANDOLPH 0631

LOUIS BONHAJO ILLUSTRATION & DESIGN
360 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

March 13,
1941

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION
FT.WAYNE,INDIANA
Attention of Mr.M.A.Cook

Gentlemen:

In response to your letter of March 11, I sent you,this noon,a set of the Lincoln color reproductions.I hope you will be pleased with these and shall appreciate your comments, pro or con.

Sincerely yours,

Louis Bonhajo

RANDOLPH 0631

LOUIS BONHAJO ILLUSTRATION & DESIGN
360 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

March 26,
1941

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION
Ft.Wayne,Indiana
Attention of Mr.M.A.Cook

Gentlemen:

The two Lincoln heads were received on Tuesday but I did not have the opportunity to unpack them until yesterday evening.

The casts are in perfect condition and I am,of course,very happy to have them.

Yours very truly,

Louis Bonhajo

TELEPHONE FRANKLIN 3403
RANDOLPH 8630

HISTORIC PRINTS &
POSTER STAMPS, INC.

TWO HUNDRED ELEVEN WEST WACKER DRIVE · CHICAGO

September Seventeenth
1 9 4 1

Louis A. Warren, Director,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

Thank you for your letter of September 16.

The leather bound edition of the Meserve Lincoln photographic stamps prepared for Lincoln Memorial University was limited to twelve copies only and given by Dr. McClelland and the University to a few close friends. My daughter was fortunate enough to be included in the list. So far as I know, it is not contemplated that any of this very limited number will ever be for sale.

You may refer to the cloth bound edition of which 300 copies were published. I am sending you one of these under separate cover. They are priced at $2.50. If you have one, please return this one; if not, send your remittance direct to Dr. McClelland at the University.

My kind regards.

Cordially yours,

HISTORIC PRINTS & POSTER STAMPS, Inc.

R. L. Parkinson

President

MC

October 26, 1942

Mr. Frank Fowler
Denoyer-Geppert Co.,
5235 Ravenswood Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Fowler:

Thank you for calling to our attention again the
by Louis Bonhajo.

We are quite familiar with this series and I believe on one occasion you supplied us with a set of lithographs for our approval. While we were interested in them we would not care to acquire them.

Very truly yours,

LAW:WM

Director

16

DENOYER-GEPPERT COMPANY

Maps, Globes, Charts, Models

SALES DEPARTMENT
O. E. GEPPERT, SEC'Y-TREAS.
GENERAL SALES MANAGER
FRANK PARKER FOWLER
ASST. SALES MANAGER

5235 RAVENSWOOD AVENUE
CHICAGO-ILLINOIS
[redacted]
CABLE [redacted]

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
REC'D OCT 23 1942
Answered D
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

October 22, 1942

The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Gentlemen:

Are you acquainted with the reproductions of the Lincoln Pictures by Louis Bonhajo, as described in the enclosed circular?

It occurs to us that you might have a "good will" use for some of these pictures, in remembering some of your clients or connections.

If you have not seen these pictures, it would be a pleasure to send a set for your examination.

Very sincerely,

DENOYER-GEPPERT COMPANY

By Frank Fowler

Frank Fowler

FF/mh
C7

Bonhajo, Louis

Drawer 19a

ARTISTS - B